

NWS Form E-5

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(PRES. BY NWS Instruction 10-924)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA (HSA)

San Juan, Puerto Rico

## MONTHLY REPORT OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS

REPORT FOR:

MONTH YEAR

December 2011

TO: Hydrologic Information Center, W/OS31  
NOAA's National Weather Service  
1325 East West Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

SIGNATURE

Althea Austin-Smith,  
Service Hydrologist

DATE

01/12/2012

*When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions below the small box, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924).*

☐ An X inside this box indicates that no flooding occurred within this hydrologic service area.

Summary: The San Juan ASOS reported 8.19 inches of rain for the month of December; 3.17 inches greater than the normal of 5.02 inches. The ASOS rainfall report from Cyril E. King Airport in St. Thomas was 2.51 inches for the month of December; 0.45 inches less than the normal of 2.96 inches.

*"2011 ranks as the second wettest year in nearly 113 years of record keeping in the San Juan Metro Area. An impressive rainfall total of 88.15 inches was reported at the San Juan International Airport, which is 31.80 inches above normal. This total was 1.35 less than 2010, the wettest year on record. According to Cooperative Weather Observer data, 2011 was a wet year across the entire forecast area, with 135% of the normal precipitation falling across all of Puerto Rico and 121% of the normal precipitation falling across the U.S. Virgin Islands. Not surprisingly, 2011 ranks as the ninth wettest year on record at Charlotte Amalie on Saint Thomas as well as at Christiansted Airport on Saint Croix with a rainfall total of 46.14 and 47.72 inches respectively." Please see (<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/sju/?n=dec2011cr>) for December's Climate Report.*

Hydrologically, December 10<sup>th</sup> proved to be the only day of real significance for the month of December, even with a relatively "wet" month across the region, especially in Puerto Rico. Most of the rainfall for the month of December occurred from [December 9<sup>th</sup> into December 10<sup>th</sup>](#) resulting in significant rises and flash flooding on some rivers and guts across the islands from Saint Croix to Puerto Rico. The heaviest rain occurred on the evening of the 9<sup>th</sup> in St. Croix and during the overnight and early morning hours of the 10<sup>th</sup> in Puerto Rico.

As a result of the intense runoff from this rainfall, minor to moderate flooding was reported in the Rio Cibuco, Rio De La Plata, Rio Fajardo, Rio Blanco, Rio Bayamon and Rio Grande de Manati basins. On the Rio Cibuco in Vega Alta, a driver had to be rescued by Emergency Managers after his car was swept away.

For specific river crests ... see the [Flood Stage Report for December](#).

The following table shows the locations with rainfall totals that exceeded 3 inches.

<b>24 HOUR RAINFALL COLLECTIVE ENDING AT 12Z</b>			
SOUTHEAST RIVER FORECAST CENTER - ATLANTA, GA			
1249 PM EST SAT DEC 10 2011			
NGHP4	7.24	:QUEB GUABA/NAGUABO	(PR)
NGIP4	6.59	:R ICACOS NR NAGUABO	(PR)
NARP4	4.60	:LAGO LA PLATA	(PR)
CNAP4	4.43	:R CANOVANAS-CAMPO RI	(PR)
MSCP4	4.07	:BISLEY MET STATION	(PR)
CMRP4	3.68	:REPRESA DE COMERIO	(PR)
GUSP4	3.67	:PUEBLITO DEL R RAING	(PR)
NAMP4	3.47	:GUADIANA/NRNJTO 1E	(PR)
RPAP4	3.37	:LAS CURIAS RG-CUPEY	(PR)
BZBP4	3.30	:BAIROA ARriba PCPN	(PR)
ARBP4	3.15	:ARECIBO 9SW/OBSERVAT	(PR)

<b>Local Storm Reports</b>			
<b>Flooding and Landslide Reports for December 2011</b>			
..TIME...	...EVENT...	...CITY LOCATION...	...LAT.LON...
..DATE...	....MAG....	..COUNTY LOCATION...ST...	...SOURCE....
	..REMARKS...		
0500 AM 12/10/2011	FLASH FLOOD	MANATI MANATI	18.43N 66.48W PR LAW ENFORCEMENT
	LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS REPORTED THAT THE RIO GRANDE DE MANATI IS OUT OF ITS BANKS. ROUTES RTE 66 & 667 FLOODED.		
0155 AM 12/10/2011	FLASH FLOOD	COROZAL COROZAL	18.34N 66.31W PR EMERGENCY MNGR
	CREEK FLOODED A SMALL BRIDGE IN BARRIO PALMAREJO.		
0205 AM 12/10/2011	FLASH FLOOD	VEGA ALTA VEGA ALTA	18.42N 66.32W PR EMERGENCY MNGR
	A CAR WITH THE DRIVER INSIDE WAS SWEEP AWAY BY THE CIBUCO RIVER AT ROAD 647 NEAR BARRIO CANDELARIA. DRIVER WAS RESCUED BY EMERGENCY MANAGERS.		
0305 AM 12/10/2011	FLASH FLOOD	VEGA BAJA VEGA BAJA	18.44N 66.40W PR EMERGENCY MNGR
	HIGHWAY 2 WAS REPORTED IMPASSABLE NEAR THE BORDER BETWEEN VEGA BAJA AND VEGA ALTA DUE TO THE CIBUCO RIVER OUT OF ITS BANKS.		

The approximate amounts of Hydrologic Products issued during the month of December are as follows:

Non-Routine Hydrologic Products Issued:	Approximate number of Products for the month
Hydrologic Outlooks (SJUESFSJU)	0
Flood Watches (SJUFFASJU)	0
Flood Warnings (SJUFLWSJU)	3
Flash Flood Warnings (SJUFFWSJU)	12
Flash Flood Statements (SJUFFSSJU)	7
Urban/Small Stream Flood Advisories (SJUFLSSJU)	33

For monthly “radar totals” use the archive of the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS) - click on the Precipitation interface for San Juan, Puerto Rico and request the duration you would like to view...daily or monthly remembering that the 24 hour totals are from 12z – 12z (8am to 8am in PR) - [AHPS archive of radar totals/ images](#). Here are the [December 2011 totals](#).